



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott  
Eastern District of California

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## **FIVE CHARGED FOR MARIJUANA-GROW HOUSES IN PLACER AND EL DORADO COUNTIES**

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging TONY LE of Lincoln, TIEN LE of Sacramento, HUNG LE of Elk Grove, CUONG LE of Sacramento and MINH LE of Sacramento, with conspiracy to manufacture at least 1000 marijuana plants and manufacturing at least 1000 marijuana plants.

This case is the product of an extensive and joint investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Internal Revenue Service, Placer County Sheriff's Office, City of Auburn Police Department, El Dorado Sheriff's Office, and the West El Dorado Narcotics Enforcement Team.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Heiko P. Coppola, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that between November 1, 2006 and September 16, 2008, the defendants engaged in a conspiracy to manufacture and manufactured at least 1000 marijuana plants in Placer and El Dorado Counties.

The investigation began when Pacific Gas and Electric reported a possible power theft to Placer County Sheriff's Office. Federal and state search warrants were served at a total of 10 houses in Foresthill, Auburn, Placerville, Lincoln, El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, Elk Grove and Sacramento. Agents discovered active indoor marijuana grows in four houses and seized approximately 3364 marijuana plants. A fifth house contained the components for an indoor grow that appeared to have been harvested.

If convicted of these charges, the defendants face a maximum sentence of a life term in prison with a mandatory minimum term of ten years in prison. However, the actual sentence will be dictated by the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of factors, and will be imposed at the discretion of the court.

The charges are only allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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